

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SOFIA 00786 300731Z

45

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-13

ACDA-19 NIC-01 RSR-01 /124 W
----- 094872

R 300700Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6660

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SOFIA 0786

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, BU

SUBJ: NEW ELECTION LAW TO ALLOW MULTIPLE CANDIDATES

1. AT OPENING OF NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SESSION JUNE 27
TODOR ZHIVKOV INTRODUCED NEW ELECTORAL LAW WHICH WILL
FOR FIRST TIME ALLOW MULTIPLE CANDIDATES FOR NATIONAL
ASSEMBLY AND PEOPLES COUNCILS POSITIONS.

2. INTRODUCING BILL ZHIVKOV SAID THAT SOCIALISM HAD
ADVANCED TO POINT REQUIRING NEW PRINCIPLES OF DEMO-
CRATIC (SIC) REPRESENTATION. ALTHOUGH TEXT OF DRAFT
LAW NOT YET PUBLISHED, ZHIVKOV OUTLINED FOLLOWING PRO-
VISIONS. BILL ENVISAGES "SYSTEMATIC TURNOVER"
IN PEOPLES' REPRESENTATIVES AND WILL CONSOLIDATE
INTO ONE THE 3 EXISTING LAWS ON ELECTIONS. ALTHOUGH
BILL MAKES OBIESANCE TO "RIGHT OF PEOPLE" TO NOMINATE
CANDIDATES, ACTUAL PRACTICE WILL CONTINUE OF CANDI-
DATES BEING NOMINATED BY BCP, AGRARIAN UNION, AND
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SOFIA 00786 300731Z

FATHERLAND FRONT. NEW FEATURE, HOWEVER, IS THAT SUCH

ORGANIZATIONS WILL HAVE RIGHT TO SUBMIT ALTERNATE CANDIDATES FOR EACH POST. LAW WILL ALSO CALL FOR WIDER REPRESENTATION OF PERSONS COUNTING BALLOTS, INCLUDING PRESS AND RADIO. RIGHT OF RECALL OF OFFICIALS IS ALSO TO BE EMBODIED IN NEW LAW.

3. COMMENT: IT IS NOT AT ALL CLEAR WHY ZHIVKOV AT THIS TIME MAKING EVEN THIS SMALL GESTURE TO APPEARANCE OF MORE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS. NEW LAW WAS INTRODUCED WITHOUT USUAL HOOPLA ASSOCIATED WITH ZHIVKOV-LED BILL AND ASIDE FROM BRIEF MENTION IN PRESS FEW DAYS BEFORE SESSION, APPEARED MORE OR LESS OUT OF THE BLUE. PRESUMABLY NEW LAW WILL BRING BULGARIAN PRACTICE MORE INTO LINE WITH THOSE IN MORE ADVANCED EE COUNTRIES SUCH AS POLAND AND HUNGARY, BUT IT IS STILL FAIRLY RADICAL DEPARTURE FOR REGIME WHICH HAS NOT ALWAYS MAINTAINED EVEN A FACADE OF DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM AND WHICH HAS AGREED DIVISION OF SEATS WITH SHAM AGRARIAN PARTY.
HOUSTON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNNNMAFVVZCZ

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: cunninfx
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973SOFIA00786
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973061/aaaaabx.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: cunninfx
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06-Sep-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <14-Sep-2001 by cunninfx>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW ELECTION LAW TO ALLOW MULTIPLE CANDIDATES
TAGS: PINT, BU
To: SECSTATE WASHDC BELGRADE BUCHAREST BUDAPEST PRAGUE MOSCOW WARSAW
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005